

REMARKS

This Examiner has objected to claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 14 for being dependent on a rejected base claim.

Claims 15 and 17-41 have been previously cancelled from this application in a paper submitted September 16, 2002.

In this paper, Applicants request cancellation of Claims 2-3, 6, 9-10, 13, 16, 42 and 43.

After entry of the amendments requested herein, Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 14 remain in this application.

In the amendments requested herein Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation previously recited in Claim 2, that is, A is limited to N.

In the amendments requested herein the dependency of Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 14 has been amended to omit dependency on claim cancelled from this application.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to submit claims in a continuation or divisional application to the subject matter of claims cancelled from this application and expressly assert that the subject matter of cancelled claims is not dedicated to the public. Further, Applicants expressly assert that claims of this application are amended solely to further to prosecution and that such amendments are not to be interpreted as relinquishment of any equivalent subject matter.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment to the claims submitted herewith. Applicants respectfully point out that Claim 1, as amended, is directed to subject matter within the scope of objected to Claim 2 (now cancelled) and that other amendments requested herein merely serve to correct dependencies made improper by the cancellation of other claims. Accordingly, Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance and solicit prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability and Notice of Issue Fee Due.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 20, 2003

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